

**What Is Claimed Is:**

- 1        1. A method for facilitating a purchase of a memory upgrade for a  
2 computer system, comprising:
  - 3            obtaining memory configuration information for the computer system;
  - 4            determining a memory upgrade option based upon the memory
  - 5 configuration information;
  - 6            presenting an option to purchase the memory upgrade option to a user of  
7 the computer system; and
  - 8            if the user indicates that the user would like to purchase the memory
  - 9 upgrade option, automatically initiating a purchase transaction for the memory
  - 10 upgrade option.
- 1        2. The method of claim 1, wherein automatically initiating the  
2 purchase transaction involves automatically initiating the purchase transaction  
3 through a web site that facilitates purchasing the memory upgrade option.
- 1        3. The method of claim 2, further comprising automatically  
2 transferring at least part of the memory configuration information to the web site  
3 so that the user does not have to reenter details of the memory configuration  
4 information into the web site.
- 1        4. The method of claim 1, wherein obtaining the memory  
2 configuration information involves reading serial presence detect information  
3 from a non-volatile storage device within a memory module in the computer  
4 system.

1       5.     The method of claim 1, wherein determining the memory upgrade  
2 option involves:

3              identifying a plurality of memory upgrade options that will work in the  
4 computer system based upon the memory configuration information; and

5              allowing the user to select the memory upgrade option from the plurality  
6 of memory upgrade options.

1       6.     The method of claim 1, wherein obtaining the memory  
2 configuration information involves obtaining at least one of:

3              an amount of memory installed in the computer system;

4              a maximum amount of memory that can be installed in the computer  
5 system;

6              a number of memory module sockets that are available to accept memory  
7 modules in the computer system; and

8              an operating speed for memory in the computer system.

1       7.     The method of claim 1, wherein prior to obtaining the memory  
2 configuration information, the method further comprises receiving a command  
3 from the user to initiate a memory upgrade for the computer system.

1       8.     A computer-readable storage medium storing instructions that  
2 when executed by a computer cause the computer to perform a method for  
3 facilitating a purchase of a memory upgrade for a computer system, the method  
4 comprising:

5              obtaining memory configuration information for the computer system;

6              determining a memory upgrade option based upon the memory  
7 configuration information;

8           presenting an option to purchase the memory upgrade option to a user of  
9   the computer system; and

10          if the user indicates that the user would like to purchase the memory  
11   upgrade option, automatically initiating a purchase transaction for the memory  
12   upgrade option.

1           9.       The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein  
2   automatically initiating the purchase transaction involves automatically initiating  
3   the purchase transaction through a web site that facilitates purchasing the memory  
4   upgrade option.

1           10.      The computer-readable storage medium of claim 9, wherein the  
2   method further comprises automatically transferring at least part of the memory  
3   configuration information to the web site so that the user does not have to reenter  
4   details of the memory configuration information into the web site.

1           11.      The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein  
2   obtaining the memory configuration information involves reading serial presence  
3   detect information from a non-volatile storage device within a memory module in  
4   the computer system.

1           12.      The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein  
2   determining the memory upgrade option involves:  
3              identifying a plurality of memory upgrade options that will work in the  
4   computer system based upon the memory configuration information; and  
5              allowing the user to select the memory upgrade option from the plurality  
6   of memory upgrade options.

1           13. The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein  
2 obtaining the memory configuration information involves obtaining at least one  
3 of:

4           an amount of memory installed in the computer system;  
5           a maximum amount of memory that can be installed in the computer  
6 system;  
7           a number of memory module sockets that are available to accept memory  
8 modules in the computer system; and  
9           an operating speed for memory in the computer system.

1           14. The computer-readable storage medium of claim 8, wherein prior  
2 to obtaining the memory configuration information, the method further comprises  
3 receiving a command from the user to initiate a memory upgrade for the computer  
4 system.

1           15. An apparatus that facilitates a purchase of a memory upgrade for a  
2 computer system, comprising:

3           a configuration lookup mechanism that is configured to obtain memory  
4 configuration information for the computer system;  
5           a determining mechanism that is configured to determine a memory  
6 upgrade option based upon the memory configuration information; and  
7           a purchasing mechanism that is configured to present an option to  
8 purchase the memory upgrade option to a user of the computer system;  
9           wherein if the user indicates that the user would like to purchase the  
10 memory upgrade option, the purchasing mechanism is configured to automatically  
11 initiating a purchase transaction for the memory upgrade option.

1        16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the purchasing mechanism is  
2 configured to automatically initiate the purchase transaction through a web site  
3 that facilitates purchasing the memory upgrade option.

1        17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the purchasing mechanism is  
2 configured to automatically transfer at least part of the memory configuration  
3 information to the web site so that the user does not have to reenter details of the  
4 memory configuration information into the web site.

1        18. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the configuration lookup  
2 mechanism is configured to read serial presence detect information from a non-  
3 volatile storage device within a memory module in the computer system.

1        19. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the determining mechanism is  
2 configured to:  
3              identify a plurality of memory upgrade options that will work in the  
4 computer system based upon the memory configuration information; and to  
5              allow the user to select the memory upgrade option from the plurality of  
6 memory upgrade options.

1        20. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the configuration lookup  
2 mechanism is configured to obtain at least one of:  
3              an amount of memory installed in the computer system;  
4              a maximum amount of memory that can be installed in the computer  
5 system;

6           a number of memory module sockets that are available to accept memory  
7       modules in the computer system; and  
8       an operating speed for memory in the computer system.

1           21.     The apparatus of claim 15, wherein the apparatus is configured to  
2       operate upon receiving a command from the user to initiate a memory upgrade for  
3       the computer system.